

News India

Times

All About Issues and Achievements

Published Weekly • 60 Cents • Founded in 1975
Vol. 34 No. 30 New York Friday, July 25, 2003

TOPIC OF THE WEEK

Washington Leadership Program 2003

In its 9th year, Indian American Center for Political Awareness placed 15 interns on the Hill



Hari Kondabolu, right, interned with Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY)



Alkesh Amin, right, interned with Sen. Bill Frist (R-TN)



Sushil Jacob, right, interned with Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI)



Bindi Bhagat, right, interned with Rep. Gary Ackerman (D-NY)



Veena Srinivasan, right, interned with Rep. Sherrod Brown (D-OH)



T. Srinivasan, right, interned with Rep. Jim Cooper (D-TN)



Madhuri Singh, right, interned with Rep. Joseph Crowley (D-NY)



Rajen Desai, right, interned with Rep. Bob Filner (D-CA)



Anjali Shayskher, right, interned with Rep. Mark Foley (R-FL)



Krishna Bhavsar, right, interned with Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-VA)



Sundeep Sood, right, interned with Rep. Denise Majette (D-GA)



Prerak Bhatia, right, interned with Rep. Jim McDermott (D-WA)



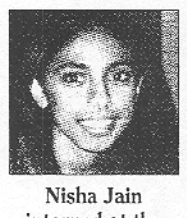
Sanchay Krishna, right, interned with Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ)



Ishita Shah, right, interned with Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC)



Tara Ramchandani interned with the Democratic Staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee headed by Sen. Joseph Biden



Nisha Jain interned at the IACPA office in Washington

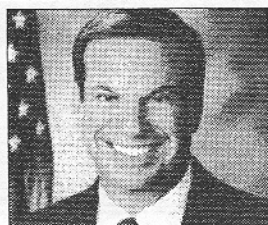
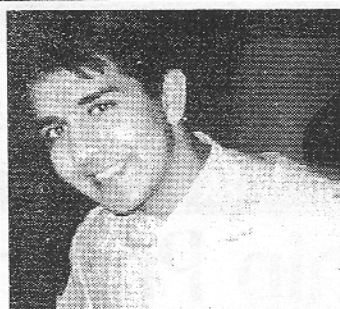
Pages 20-24

(over)

Interns invariably gain a better sense of their Indian American identity

In its ninth year, IACPA's program attracted applications from over 120 Indian-American college students from across U.S.

■ Interning with Representatives



Rajen Desai, left, interned with Rep. Bob Filner (D-CA)

RAJEN DESAI

Rajen Desai, son of Uday and Smita Desai from Fort Worth, Texas, was a cadet squadron commander and is a certified solo pilot in the United States Air Force Auxiliary.

As a President's Scholar and Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Stanford University, he completed an honors thesis in neurobiology (soon to be published) on how new axons grown in the brain during childhood learning are not erased when the child forgets, but are maintained throughout adulthood. Further, he completed a second senior thesis in medical anthropology focusing on how to educate unlicensed doctors who practice illegally in the slums of India. Outside of research, Desai won top university leadership awards as co-president of Sanskriti, the 500-member Stanford South Asian society, where he focused on building Hindu-Muslim unity. He was also nationally recognized by the United States Department of Health and Human Services for his leadership in the South Asian Preventive Health Outreach Program.

This summer, Desai interned with Rep. Bob Filner (D-CA). This fall, he will return to Palo Alto, Calif., to begin the M.D. program at Stanford Medical School, as well as an M.A. in International Policy Studies. His long-term plans are to focus on how religious movements in South Asia can ameliorate regional public health concerns and India-Pakistan relations.